## **Department of Human Resources**

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary

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## Press Release

Children in Need of Adoptive Homes Meet Prospective Parents for a Fun-Filled Day at the Beach

29 Teenagers, Sibling Groups, and Children with Special Physical and/or Mental Health Needs Seek Matches for Homes From Among 40 Families

Pasadena, MD (August 12, 2004) – On Friday, August 13, 29 children who need adoptive homes and 40 families looking to adopt will meet at Kurtz's Beach on the Chesapeake Bay for an exciting day of fun, games, and prospective adoptive pairings. Prospective parents who are trying to adopt will have a chance to see the children in a relaxed, festive atmosphere, as they enjoy clowns, rides, and entertainment.

The event is being hosted by the Greater Severna Park Rotary Club, the Maryland Department of Human Resources, and the Metro Area Adoption Committee, which consists of adoption and foster care workers representing twelve counties from across the State that have teamed up to bring the children and families together.

For Immediate Release

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"This is a great partnership for DHR," says Christopher J. McCabe, Secretary of DHR. "This is a day for the children to get outdoors and have a good time, and to show several interested families from across Maryland that there are wonderful children in the State's custody in need of stable, permanent, loving homes."

The Greater Severna Park Rotary Club has been the major driving force behind this event. The Rotary decided to sponsor an adoption event as part of the Rotary International's Centennial Anniversary.

"We are very proud that we can bring children, families, social workers, and community members together to make matches between adoptive families and children who are waiting for homes," says Gordon Smith, Past-President of the Greater Severna Park Rotary Club. "Friday, I am sure, will be a good day for all of us."

Attendance to the event is by invitation only, though members of the media are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Elyn Jones at 410-767-7758.

Where: Kurtz's Beach on the Chesapeake Bay

Pasadena Maryland 21122

When: Friday, August 13, 2004; 11:00 am – 3:00 pm